(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) The Election Commission made an announcement of bye-elections in the abovementioned three Assembly Constituencies on 6th April, 1990 and accordingly the Model Code of Conduct came into force with immediate effect. According to the information available with the Election Commission, no transfer of officers connected with these bye-elections has been made by the Haryana Government since that date.

Official Rates of Rouble and Dollar Vis-a-Vis-Indian Rupee

475. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the official rate of the Russian Rouble vis-a-vis the Indian rupee;

(b) what is the official rate of the US Dollar vis-a-vis the Indian rupee;

(c) whether it is a fact that a person can officially change one US Dollar for six Roubles in the Soviet Union; and

(d) how does this disparity affect India's trade with USSR?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) As on 4-5-1990, Rouble 1 =Rs. 19.9169.

(b) As on 4-5-1990, US $ 1= Rs. 17.395.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, this rate is applicable to tourists and non-commercial transactions; not for trade and commercial transactions.

(d) There is no evidence to suggest that the disparity has a direct impact on India's trade with the USSR.

Appointment of Deputy Director (FAC) Varanasi in the Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)

476. SHRI T. R. BALU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint regarding appointment of Deputy Director (FAC) Varanasi in the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts);

(b) whether some Members of Parliament and some former Members have also written to former Ministers-incharge of DOP and Textiles and to Chairman, UPSC in this regard, if so, what are the dates on which those references were received; and

(c) what action Government have taken so far any propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Three Members/ Former Members of Parliament had written to the then Minister incharge of DOP and Chairman, UPSC and the same were received in the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) on 8-11-89, 6-10-89 and 30-11-89 respectively.

(c) The UPSC has been requested to fill up the post of Deputy

Director (FAC), Varanasi by promotion on regular basis in accordance with the Recruitment Rules.

Codification of the Law of Torts Creation

477. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:
SHRI SUSHIL BARONGPA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to law, as it exists today, common man suffering losses, because of the acts/omissions of Governmmnt servants does not get proper compensation because 'Law of Torts' has not been amended and adopted on the lines of similar laws enacted in England, in 1947 and the archaic doctrine of 'KING CAN DO NO WRONG' continues to deprive the citizens of this country of their legitimate right to get adequate damage for wrongs done to them by the government servants; and

(b) if so, whether Government would bring forward a suitable legislation to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) In India, the Law of Torts is not yet codified and is governed by the principles of equity, justice and good conscience in general. However, the doctrine that 'King can do no wrong' has no application in our country which is governed by the written Constitution providing rights to the citizens against the State. Further, there are certain Acts which provide for remedies for civil wrongs such as Fatal Accidents Act, 1855; the Carriers Act, 1965; the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923; the Employers' Liability Act, 1938 and Patents Act, 1970 etc. and also certain provisions contained in labour laws having a bearing on the Law of Torts. Though in the past some exercise has been undertaken in this regard, after some deliberations it was felt that it would be more advantageous to allow the law to develop for some more time to come through judicial decisions.

Export target of engineering goods and services

478. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised the export target of engineering goods and services for the year 1990-91;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and in what context this revision has been made; and

(c) whether this revision is also based on modification in the International Price Reimbursement Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No export target of engineering goods and services has yet been fixed for 1990-91.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Cold rolled steel coils supply by SAIL

479. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 13,000 metric tonnes of 0·4/0·5 mm. Cold Rolled Steel Coils have been supplied to one status 'B' Non-Compact Group galvanising unit and eight to nine Status 'C'